

KA-CHACK



**Chapter 12:
Dad Again**

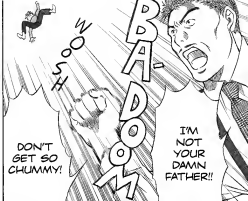




NO,
KABU-
RASI-
SAN.

NO,
MR.
CEO.

D-
DAD.



DON'T
GET SO
CHUMMY!

I'M
NOT
YOUR
DAMN
FATHER!!



WHAT
I DON'T
LIKE
ABOUT
YOU...



I'LL
FIX IT,
WHAT-
EVER
IT IS!

Then give me
Natsuki-san's
hand.

TELL
ME
WHAT
YOU
DON'T
LIKE
ABOUT
ME!



A denial of
his entire
existence



...IS THAT
YOU'RE IN
LOVE WITH
NATSUKI
AND WITH
MANGA.

GET
IT?

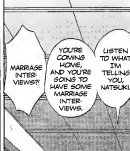


SLAM DUNK BY TAKEHIKO INOUE, SERIALIZED IN SHONEN JUMP FROM 1990. A MONUMENTAL BASKETBALL MANGA, FOLLOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-PROCLAIMED 8-BALLING GENIUS HAKURAIJI KAKURAGI. THE ABOVE DIALOGUE COMES FROM COACH ANZAI SHOKUROU RIGHT BASKETBALL COACH. THE SLAM DUNK COMPLETE EDITION IS AVAILABLE IN 24 VOLUMES.



YOU
CAN HAVE
AS MANY
AS YOU
WANT.

I'M NOT
SAYING
YOU HAVE
TO DECIDE
AFTER THE
FIRST ONE.



MARRIAGE
INTER-
VIEWS?

YOU'RE
COMING
HOME,
AND YOU'RE
GOING TO
HAVE SOME
MARRIAGE
INTER-
VIEWS.

LISTEN
TO WHAT
I'M
TELLING
YOU,
NATSUKI.



...YOU
WON'T KNOW
WHICH MAN
TO CHOOSE
AND YOU'LL
BEGIN TO
LOSE IT.

MAYBE
AROUND
THE THIRD
OR FIFTH
ONE...



A SON
WILL BE
BORN AFTER
A YEAR AND
A DAUGHTER
THREE
YEARS
LATER.

FOLLOWED
BY MANY
HAPPY
DAYS...



BUT YOU'LL
OVERCOME
ALL THIS AND
GET MARRIED
AT A FANCY
RESTAURANT
IN DOWN-
TOWN
TOKYO.

YOU'LL
PROBABLY FALL IN
LOVE WITH SOME
GUY YOU ACCIDENTALLY
BUMPED INTO ON THE
STREET AND YOU'LL
BE COMPLETELY
RATTLED.

NO...



N.O.
N.O!

BUT
THEN TWO
MONTHS LATER,
A COMPLETE
TWIST OF FATE
THAT NO ONE
EXPECTED...



I DON'T
WANT TO
LIVE A
LIFE YOU
PLANNED
OUT FOR
ME.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
"NO"?



I'LL
DECIDE
WHAT TO
DO WITH
MY LIFE!

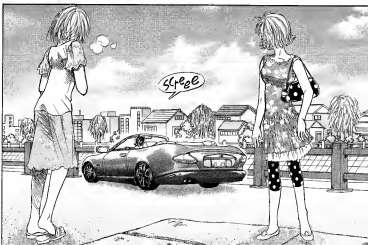
LISTEN
TO YOUR
FATHER!

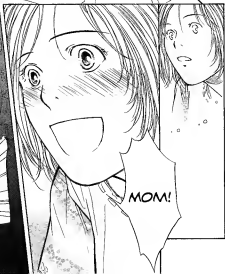
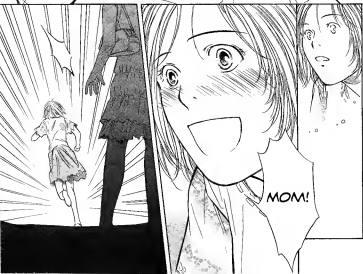


A
JAG.



THAT
ENGINE
SOUND
...









VROOOM

SCREE SCREE SCREE SCREE



YIKES.
WHO'D
WANT
TO GET
MIXED
UP IN
THAT?

WOW... A
CAR CHASE
BETWEEN
A JAGUAR
AND A VEL
SATIS.



I'LL BE
IN THE
DUN-
GEON.











HAVEN'T
HEARD
THAT
ONE
IN A
WHILE.

ANYTHING
FOR THE
INNOCENT
ANGEL WHO
ALIGHTED
BEHIND
THE CASH
REGISTER.



BUT
THANKS.



I'LL
READ IT
CARE-
FULLY.



NOT
REALLY.

pff

Kazan's
way
cooler.

STAB



IT
ISN'T
EASY
MANAGING
A STORE
ALL BY
YOURSELF.



CHIE-
CHAN
IS
LIKE
ME...

I
f
r
e
e







THEN
...

ALL
HE DOES
IS AVOID
YOSHIE-
SAN...

THAT
WOULD
HAVE
TO BE
TETSU.



WHO
LOVES
THE
OTHER
MORE?



TETSU.





...IS IT
NATSUKI-
SAN?

IT'S
NOT
EASY
HAVING
A SHY
FATHER
...



RE-
LIEVED
?

SHIBA-
SAN...

EVEN
TETSU'S
FORMER
TEACHER,
HANAI SENSEI,
SAID TETSU
WAS STILL
IN LOVE...

TETSU
LOVES
YOSHIE-
SAN
MORE...



REALLY?



HIGH-FIVE!



REALLY?
AWW-
RIGHT
!

BINSO,
KOSHINO!
HE SAYS
HE'S
WILLING
TO TALK.



I'M
HEADING
THERE
NOW.

YES,
WE CAN
DISCUSS
IT AT
NEKO-
TAMA-DO.



Ha
Ha
Ha

...I ENDED
UP SAYING
THE WORD
I'VE USED
TIME AND
AGAIN SINCE
WE'VE BEEN
MARRIED.

ULTI-
MATE-
LY...

BUT
SHE WAS
SURPRISINGLY
ACCEPTING
ABOUT IT.

I
TALKED
TO
HER ABOUT
IT, THINKING
SHE WOULD
TAKE SOME
CONVINCING.

THE WORD
THAT A MAN
WANTS TO SAY
MOST TO A
WOMAN
HE TRULY
LOVES...

...ALL
THE
TIME.

I WONDER
WHAT IT IS
HE SAYS...



THANK
YOU?

め

DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT
IT IS, AYU-
CHAN?

THE
WORD
IS...

A
WOMAN
IS WET
BEHIND
THE EARS
IF SHE'S
STILL BEING
THANKED.

NO,
NO
...



...
"SORRY."

BECAUSE
YOU ALWAYS
COME HERE
WHEN
YOU'RE
SAD...

...EVER
SINCE
COL-
LEGE.



HOW
DID YOU
KNOW
I'D BE
HERE?



...MORE
OBEDIENT...
MORE
ANGELIC?

ISN'T A
DAUGHTER
SUPPOSED
TO BE MORE
DOCILE...

NATSUMI
REFUSES
TO LISTEN
TO ME.

...



WOULD YOU
REALLY HAVE
WANTED A
SUBMISSIVE
CHILD
WHO'D DO
ANYTHING
YOU SAY?



WHAT
ARE YOU
WORRIED
ABOUT?

IT'S A
GOOD
THING.



...THAT
SHE'S
REBELLING
AGAINST
YOU
NOW.



IT'S
BECAUSE
WE RAISED
HER NOT
TO BE
THAT
WAY...



WHOOPS,
MY CLASS
IS ABOUT
TO START.

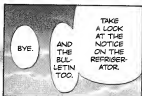
I
SHOULD
GO.



YOUR
CLASS
...
ARE YOU
STUDYING
SOME-
THING?



HO-
NAMI
...









Chapter 13: One Percent Man



FIGHT
SONG
NUMBER
ONE,
READY!!



Chapter 13:
One Percent Man



W o o s h

THE ONLY THING WE NEED TO DO IS ACT EVERY DAY IN A WAY THAT WILL NOT BRING US SHAME.

WE'RE NOT GONNA CHANGE OUR WAYS JUST BECAUSE OF WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK.

CAPTAIN IKA-RUGA'S SOMETHING ELSE.

PHEW, MAN.

THEN LET'S GO.

Tmp
Tmp

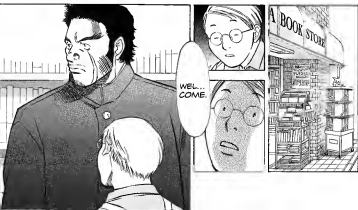
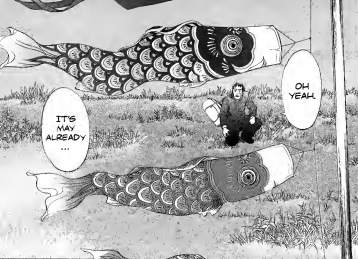
AM I WRONG?

N-
NO.

HE'S A MAN AMONG MEN.

THEY DON'T CALL HIM THE "SEKIDO AOTA" OF NISHI HIGH FOR NOTHING.







...YOU
LOOKING
FOR
SOME-
THING?

UHH...



A-
ARE
...



KRAK



WHY?



CHII
...



YIKES!

SH



I'LL
LOOK
FOR IT
MYSELF.

NO.



I HEAR
YOU'RE
GETTING
PRETTY
INFLUENTIAL
AROUND
THESE
PARTS.

YO, NISHI
HIGH'S
IKARUGA.

BA-
DOM

SOME-
DAY
I'LL RIP
THAT
MASK
OFF
YOUR
FACE.

I SEE
THROUGH
YOUR
TOUGH-
GUY ACT.

SADA
HIGH'S
ASUKA.

NISHI
HIGH'S
"SEKIDO
AOTA,"
HUH?

GR
AB
QUIT
ACTING
ALL BIG.

RIGHT,
CAP—

?

THE
CAPTAIN'S
THE REAL
THING.

WHAT'S
HE
GOING
ON
ABOUT
?

BE
READY
FOR IT.





WHY
DONT
I JUST
ASK HIM
STRAIGHT
OUT.

HE
MIGHT'VE
BEEN BUYING
IT FOR HIS
DAUGHTER
OR GRAND-
DAUGHTER.



WHAT
AM I
DOING...

...
TAILING
THIS
DULL
GUY?



THAT'S
WHAT A
REAL MAN
WOULD
DO!



YOU...

Y-
YES?!



HEY.

Y-
YES?!



YOU
LIKE CHICHI
AND SALLY
TOO?



...I WAS
SO HAPPY,
BECAUSE
IT MEANT
THAT THE
SEASON FOR
CHII KOI HAD
ARRIVED
AGAIN.

WHEN
THE FIRST
CROP OF
CHERRIES
STARTED
POPPING
UP AT
FRUIT
STANDS
...

SORRY
TO
SPOOK
YOU.

I
THOUGHT
I WAS
GOING
TO GET
ROUGHED
UP FOR
SURE.



...GRADE
SCHOOL.

...ZU...-u

AND
YOU?

...HAS
BEEN ONE
OF LIFE'S
PLEASURES
FOR OVER
30 YEARS.

ITS
ANNUAL
PUBLICA-
TION...



BUT YOU'RE STILL LIVING IN CHICHI AND SALLY'S WORLD.

...SO SHE MOVED ON TO THE WORLD OF HAI AKKO DESU.

SHE'S MARRIED WITH TWO KIDS NOW...

© TOSIYUKI KUBO
01-7621-5122





I...

SOME-
THING
THE
MAT-
TER?



...



I HAVE
A FEELING
WE COULD
BE GOOD
FRIENDS.

IKA-
RUSA-
SAN...



...LIKE
YOU
CAN.

THE
REALITY
IS I'M A
COWARD
WHO CAN'T
EVEN SAY
THE TITLE
OF THE
BOOK TO
THE BOOK-
SELLER...



BUT 99
PERCENT OF
ALL MEN IN
THIS WORLD
WOULDN'T
READ A
MANGA LIKE
THIS.



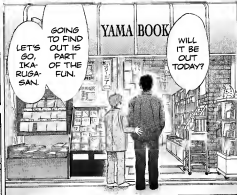
I'VE
BEEN
CALLED
A "MAN'S
MAN" BY
A LOT OF
PEOPLE.



THEN
WHY NOT
BE PART OF
THE ONE
PERCENT?



1988
 BUY ADOBE BEUTER, THE 15 JAPANESE SHOGUN KINGS, AVAILABLE IN THE SHOGUN EDITION OF JAPANESE ANIMATED FILMS IN 1980. SEE STORY BEHIND THE DAILY LIVES OF KODOMORI, ANKO-SAN AND HER FRIENDS ALSO AVAILABLE TO ORDER IN 1988. THE 1988 JAPANESE VERSION OF THE ANKO-SAN SERIES IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE.





IS
THE
NEW
VOLUME
OF
CHISANA
KOI NO
MONO-
GATARI
OUT
YET?



gulp



YES?
HEY.



IKA-
RUSA-
SAN...

I'LL
ASK.



Bwa-hahaha!!



SHIDA
HIGH'S
ASUKA
!



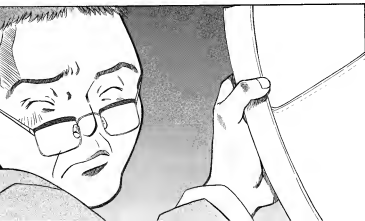
AHH
HAHA
HA.

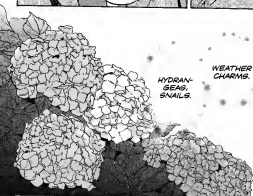






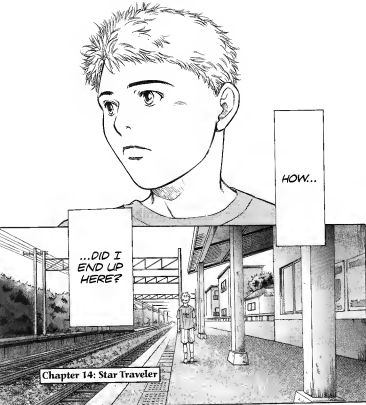












Chapter 14: Star Traveler

IT'S ALL
BECAUSE
OF THIS
MANGA...











...
AWAY.

WHAT?
?

I DON'T
KNOW
...

HMM,
I GUESS
ONES I
HAVEN'T
READ YET?

YESS!



...SOME-
WHERE,
ANYWHERE
THAT ISN'T
HERE.

A
MANGA
THAT
TAKES
YOU FAR
AWAY...



TOKI-
ZANE-
KUN...

THAT'S
THE
KIND OF
MANGA
I WANT
TO READ.

A MANGA
ABOUT
TRAVELING
FARTHER
THAN YOU
EVER
THOUGHT
POSSIBLE.



SO WHY
DOES HE
SEEM SO
DESPERATE
NOW?

... SO
CALM
AND
QUIET.

HE AL-
WAYS
LOOKS
...

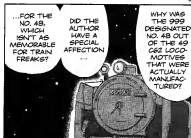
WHAT
IS
THIS?







GALAXY EXPRESS 999 BY LEIJI MATSUMOTO



WOW, GOOD CALL. *Defeated!*

AT FIRST...

THE TYPE WHO'D GROW UP TO BE THE MAIN CHARACTER IN A RYOICHI IKEGAMI MANGA.

U M M.

SO YUKIHIRO, WHAT'S TOKIZANE-KUN LIKE?

You're not listening to me.

WHAT'S YOUR DAD LIKE?

I HEAR LOTS OF MEN ARE CLOSET TRAIN FREAKS.

I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS ONE UNTIL NOW.

OH... SO YOUR FATHER'S A TRAIN FREAK TOO.

HMM.

COUNT MECHA.

MY DAD IS...





IT'S A SECRET.





MY
DAD'S
COPY
OF
999?!



WHERE'S
THE
COPY
OF
999?

THERE'S
NOTHING
WE CAN
DO. IT WAS
AGAINST
THE RULES
IN THE
FIRST PLACE.



NOW WE
HAVE NO
PLACE
TO GO.



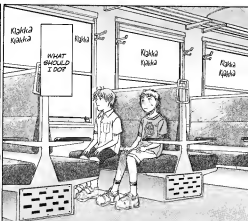
THE
TEACHER
FOUND
OUT AND
TOOK
EVERY-
THING
AWAY.



I HID IT
BEFORE
IT GOT
CONFIS-
CATED.

I HAVE
IT.









THAT
WAS THE
KIND OF
MAN HE
WAS.

...HE
COULD
NEVER
MAKE A
DECI-
SION.

HE WAS
SO KIND
THAT...



BUT HE
WAS
KIND.



MY REAL
DAD LEFT
US IN DEBT
AND RAN
AWAY WITH
ANOTHER
WOMAN.



BUT I
UNDER-
STOOD
THAT HE
FELT LIKE
RUNNING
AWAY.

I
COULDN'T
UNDER-
STAND
EVERY-
THING
HE WAS
SAYING.



I-



THE
PASSING
SOUND
OF THE
CROSSING
SIGNAL.

THE
CREAKING
OF THE
TRAIN.

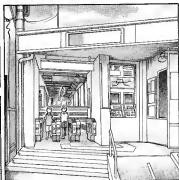


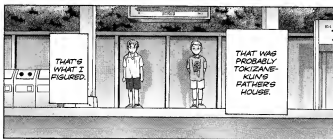
"NOW WE
HAVE NO
PLACE
TO GO."

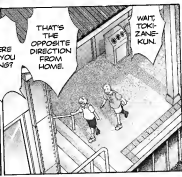
HONK
HONK

WHERE...

...IS THIS
TRAIN
TAKING
US?









IT'S
PITCH
DARK.



...TO
TURN
BACK
NOW!

...SOME-
WHERE,
ANY-
WHERE
THAT
ISN'T
HERE.

A
MANGA
THAT
TAKES
YOU FAR
AWAY...

STARS.

A
MANGA
ABOUT
TRAVELING
FARTHER
THAN YOU
EVER
THOUGHT
POSSIBLE.



... THAT
WASN'T
WHAT
HAPPENED.

NO...

I GET
IT NOW.
THIS'LL
MAKE ANY
BOY WANT
TO RIDE THE
RAILS.

A
TIME-
LESS
MASTER-
PIECE.

GALAXY
EXPRESS
999.

HEY...

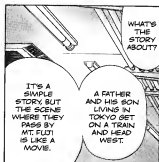
I'LL
SHOW
YOU
TODAY'S
SPECIAL
FIND.

OH
YEAH.

KISHA
RYOKOU
...?

IT'S
A...

...REAL
SEM.



[illegible]

THEN
IT'S
SETTLED



...WHO
CAN'T
GO
HOME
NOW,
EVEN
IF HE
WANTED
TO.

HE'S
CREATING
AN OPPOR-
TUNITY
AND AN
EXCUSE FOR
TOKIZANE-
KUN...

COUNT
MEGHA

TUMTUG







THE MACHINE
TURNED OUT
TO BE...



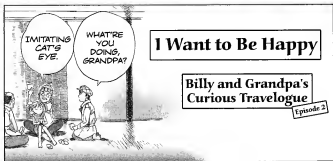
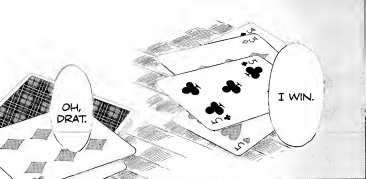


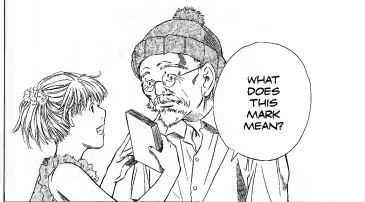
BONUS IMAGE FOR BOOKSTORE DISPLAY 3

TRANSLATION OF ABOVE IMAGE
 SHINGO VHS BOOK 1
 SATUKI SAYS, "ON SALE ALONG WITH THE COMPLETE
 TWO VOLUMES OF MIYOCHO"
 SHINGO VHS BOOK 1 BY SEIJI YOSHIZAKI



BONUS IMAGE: DKKZ SEPTEMBER 2005 COVER

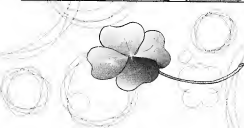












If any of the readers out there happen to come across a four-leaf clover, please let us know...

Or not.

In any case, we hope you find happiness in your life.



KINGYO USED BOOKS NOTEBOOK

More useful information about
the manga found on the shelves of
Kingyo Used Books!

Text by Hiroshi Hashimoto.

Born in 1948 in Kumamoto, Japan. Owner of the used bookstore Kirara Bunko. Aside from running his bookstore, he also teaches at preparatory school and is active in a nonprofit organization. Fellow alumni of his elementary school include manga commentators Hiroshi Yonezawa and Yukari Fujimoto. His dream is to build a manga library in Aso. Hashimoto was asked to write this column when being interviewed for information for this series.



This series is featured in Chapter 8:
His View



Adolf ni Tsugu (4 volumes)

By Osamu Tezuka

Published by Bungei Shunju beginning in 1985

The work featured in this chapter is by the god of manga, Osamu Tezuka. Tezuka's autumnal masterpiece was *Adolf ni Tsugu* [published in five volumes in the United States: *Adolf: A Tale of the Twentieth Century*; *Adolf: An Exile in Japan*; *Adolf: The Half-Aryan*; *Adolf: Days of Infamy*; and *Adolf: 1945 and All That Remains* – Ed.]. This is an orthodox entry for this column, which has heretofore featured some pretty offbeat manga. It was first serialized in *Shukan Bunshun*, a general-interest weekly magazine – a rarity for a Tezuka work – from January 6, 1983, to May 30, 1985. Its eventual hardcover release, not as a manga series but as a literary work, made it an exceptional best seller, reminding readers of Tezuka's skill. The series is currently available through *Bunshun Visual Bunko* and *The Complete Manga Works of Tezuka Osamu* series.

The story revolves around three Adolfs: the son of a German consul living in Kobe; the son of a Jewish baker; and of course, Adolf Hitler. The meaninglessness of war, the precariousness of justice and the prejudice that dwells in people's souls all become chaotically entangled and grab hold of the reader.

"I hoped that people would consider what justice is... as insignificant as that hope may be." This is a line spoken by Sohei Toge, who is the driving force of the story. Every time I come face-to-face with life's absurdities, I am constantly reminded of particular scenes and lines from this manga. It is for this reason that this work is said to be a "trauma" manga.

There is a resurgent appreciation for Tezuka's work of late. An omnibus-style magazine called *Tezuka Osamu Magazine* was launched, and remakes of *Black Jack* and *Astro Boy* (Testuwan Atomu) have been popular. Why Tezuka now? Perhaps it's because the recurring message Tezuka conveyed in his numerous works has at long last begun to reach the souls of the Japanese. I can't help but think that we're finally beginning to recognize the different faces of justice that Tezuka sought to expose in his series *Adolf ni Tsugu*.

With this series, you can see that Kingyo Used Books carries not only premium books that manga freaks enjoy but also plenty of philosophical manga that make you think.



© Fujiko Pro
© 藤子プロ

This series is featured in Chapter 9:
Yes or No



Bara to Yubiwa [The Rose and the Ring]

By Fujiko Fujio (Fujiko F. Fujio)*

Published by Kodansha in 1955

Bara to Yubiwa by Fujiko Fujio (the pen name at the time for the two mangaka who created the series) was originally written by William Makepeace Thackeray. The manga was published as a supplement to a special New Year's issue of *Shojo Club*. It was the first full-length girls' manga that the two fledgling creators tackled after moving to Tokyo from Toyama. The story of its completion is a highlight of the semiautobiographical manga called *Manga Michi*. Since the story was reprinted nearly in its entirety in *Manga Michi*, readers can read it from Chuko Manga Bunko or at Fujiko Fujio eLand.

But there's a distinctive feel to the original that gets lost in the reproduced version. The book itself is square shaped, the color of the cover art subtly different in a way that can't be reproduced today and, above all, the original is brimming with the intense energy that the young Fujiko (Hiroshi Fujimoto) channeled into the artwork. Fujiko fans have searched desperately for a copy of the original, but only a dozen or so copies are currently said to be in existence, making it the rarest manga to be featured in *Kingyo Used Books* thus far.

I also have an unforgettable story that relates to this work. Fifteen years ago, manga volumes in rental bookshops and used bookstores were treated like a nuisance. One rental outlet even had stacks of old manga piled in front of the store with a sign that read: "Take as many as you like." That's how I acquired several dozen manga by Shigeru Mizuki. Used

bookstores also sold scores of manga supplements and magazines. It was at one such bookstore that I discovered a copy of *Bara to Yubiwa*. It was only ¥300! To find a book this rare at a place like that! I handed over my money, took the book and bolted out of the store like I had stolen it. I was worried that the bookseller might chase me down to tell me, "I'm sorry, the price was wrong." When I look at the "¥300" written on the book in pencil now, I'm reminded of that fateful day.

Maybe that bookstore was a kind of *Kingyo Used Books* for me.

[*The former is the combined pen name of the two mangaka. The latter is the name that Hiroshi Fujimoto took after the partnership's dissolution. He is the main mangaka for this work—Ed.]



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This series is featured in Chapter 10:
The Other Side of the Window



Miyazawa Kenji: Mangakan (Volume 4)

By Osamu Tezuka, et al.

Published by Ushio Publishing beginning
in 1996

Miyazawa Kenji: Mangakan is considered to be one of the greatest cultural legacies of the Japanese manga world. Volumes 1 and 2 were published in 1985 by Ushio Publishing, and despite a lengthy break in between, volumes 3 through 5 were released in 1996 to commemorate the centennial of Kenji Miyazawa's birth. Osamu Tezuka's *Yamanashi* (The Wild Pear), which was featured in this chapter, appears in the fourth volume.

In the early '80s, the most skilled mangaka at the time gathered to publish passionate, original works for *Gekkan Comic Tom* (Monthly Comic Tom); it was a dream project that has been said will never happen again. These works were compiled in *Miyazawa Kenji: Mangakan*.

Here is part of the lineup: *Cello Hiki no Gorsch* (Gorsch the Cellist), Hiroshi Asuna; *Cairo Dancho* (The Thirty Frogs), Shigeru Mizuki; *Utsunon no Ooi Ryoriten* (The Restaurant of Many Orders), Shinji Nagashima; *Kūro no Tomato* (The Yellow Tomato), Nao Sakaguchi; *Oinomori to Zarusori, Nusutomori* (Wolf Forest, Colander Forest, Thief Forest), Morimi Murano; *Hikari no Suushi* (Shiny Bare Feet), Minoru Kimura; *Frandon Nogakko no Buta* (The Pig at Frandon Farm School), Murasaki Yamada; *Kai no Hi* (The Fire Stone), Eiko Mizuno; *Kenju Koenrin* (Kenju Park Woods), Yuukichi Yamamatsu; *Gusko Budori no Denki* (The Life of Gusko Budori), Reiji Matsumoto; *Yamanashi* (The Wild Pear), Osamu Tezuka; *Kashitwa Bayashi no Yoru* (The Eve of the Oak Grove), Yousuke Takahashi; *Matsuri no Ban* (Night of the

Festival), Ouji Suzuki; *Ozbel to Zo* (Ozbel and the Elephant), Seichi Hayashi; *Tsukiyo no Denshinkashira* (March by Moonlight), Koji Suzuki; and *Yamatoko no Shigatsu* (The Man of the Hills), Kazuyoshi Iino.

That such a galaxy of illustrious artists brought to life Kenji Miyazawa's world in manga form with such originality is astounding. They are works that I'd hope children would read but are sadly now out of print. This is the kind of series I'd like to see reprinted.

Why do Kenji Miyazawa's stories grab hold of our hearts and refuse to let go? I believe this is attributable to the author's particular use of language and rhythm. Every word comes to us riding a curious rhythm and seeps into our souls like crystal-clear water. After reading one of his stories, you feel strangely satiated, as if you'd been given a kind of food for the soul. It's all the more satisfying that these stories are told through the windows to the soul called manga panels.

Other titles to render Kenji's world in manga form include *Masumura Hiroshi Sakuhinshu* (The Collected Works of Hiroshi Masumura) (Asahi Sonorama), and *Night on the Milky Way Train* (Shinji Takahashi/NHK Publishing), both of which succeed in creating a distinctive world of their own. (Both are currently in print.)

Won't you please visit Kingyo Used Books and get lost in Kenji's world by reading the various manga versions of his works?



This series is featured in Chapter 11:
A Bundle of Papers



Stuff About Used Book Fairs

Department store used book fairs... a history of over 70 years. Have you ever been to a place where you can browse multiple used bookstores at once?

The problem of declining book sales troubling Natsuki in this chapter is a common concern among used bookstores. With the collapse of the out-of-print manga market, which belatedly followed the actual collapse of the bubble economy seven to eight years earlier, many bookstores have suffered a severe slump in sales. As the value of name-brand books by Nagai, Mizuki, Fujiko and Umezu began to drop, the lending library, juvenile, horror and girls' manga booms that followed quickly fizzled, so used bookstores see few surefire sellers nowadays. It appears Kingyo Used Books is no exception.

In an effort to overcome such trying times, more and more used bookstores have started online sales, which have proven popular. Participation in used book fairs at department stores is also common.

However, it's actually quite difficult to participate in these fairs. You have to be at the department store for the duration of the fair, making it all but impossible to oversee business at the store. And since you have to pay a fee to the department store for the space, you run the risk of taking a loss if sales are low. But from the customer's standpoint, the convenience of being able to browse multiple bookstores in one place is attractive.

Now allow me to share with you several keys to taking full advantage of used book fairs. First, check out the fairs being held around the country at Nihon no Furohonya (Used Bookstores of Japan)

(<http://www.kosho.or.jp>), and get ahold of catalogs beforehand so you can mark specific books you're looking for and find some good bargains. Also, since stores are always bringing out new books, you'll want to visit on the first, middle and last days of the fair. It's also important to get friendly with the owner of the store that frequently carries the books you're collecting.

In this way, going to a used book fair can be a rare opportunity to stumble upon a book or store that you might not have found otherwise. The number of used book fairs is declining, however, due to the collapse of the out-of-print manga market mentioned earlier.

As a result of participating in the department store fair for the first time, Kingyo Used Books will likely see its customer base greatly expanded and a nice rise in sales. My only worry is that if the store becomes too busy, it will lose its characteristic timeless atmosphere. Maybe Kingyo Used Books is better off continuing at its current pace, supported by its manga-loving customers and staff.



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This series is featured in Chapter 12:
Dad Again



***Jarinko Chie* (67 volumes)**

By Etsushi Haruki

Published by Futabasha beginning in 1979

Etsushi Haruki's *Jarinko Chie* (Chie the Brat) began serialization in 1978 in *Weekly Manga Action* and ended in 1997 after a 20-year run. It's a sentimental story that humorously and lovingly depicts the lives of the people living in an old neighborhood of Osaka. The series was collected into 67 tankobon volumes and is also currently available in bunkobon format. When a series enjoys this kind of longevity, people tend to stop reading it five or six years after serialization ends. This one, however, seems to have a hidden appeal, helping it to maintain a steadfast popularity.

The voice actors for the animated feature were also tremendous. With Chinatsu Nakayama as Chie, Kyoko Mitsubayashi as Yoshie, Norio Nishikawa as Tetsu, Yasushi Yokoyama as Antonio Jr., Kiyoshi Nishikawa as Kotetsu, the two rakugo masters Nikaku Shofukutei and Sanshi Katsura as the father-son tag team of Kenkotsu Hanai and Hanai Sensei, and Utako Kyo and Keisuke Ootori as Obaa-han and Ojii-han, an all-star cast of Yoshimoto comedians was assembled – inconceivable for a typical animated project. [Rakugo is the art of comic storytelling. Yoshimoto is a big talent agency whose clients are mostly comedians – Ed.]

Kochira Katsushikaku Kameari Kouenmae Hashutsujo (Katsushika Ward's Kameari Parkside Police Box), a manga featuring the same brand of sentimental stories set in the same old neighborhood, was serialized two years earlier in 1976 in *Shonen Jump* by Osamu Akimoto under the name Tatsuhiko Yamadome. Still being serialized today, the

manga hosts a cast of characters from Ryo-san to the super-rich Nakagawa and Reiko, who are thoroughly carefree and cheerful. On the other hand, while the characters in *Jarinko Chie* appear to be extremely cheerful at first glance, characters such as Karumerayaki, Okonomiyaki and the self-proclaimed Intellectual Yakuza are all shrouded in uncertainty. That's the hidden appeal of this manga. For example, the nature of Tetsu's complex feelings becomes clear in the following speech by Obaa-han:

"That Tetsu is a confusing one. He gets oddly tense when Yoshie-san is nearby. As old as he is, he still wants to look good around her."

Even though he's really very shy, Tetsu is strangely defiant, fighting with yakuza, and yet gets suddenly quiet around wife Yoshie and daughter Chie. You wouldn't expect that, but that's what's so endearing about him.

Natsuki's father, who reappears in this chapter, may also talk big in front of his daughter, but he's constantly being yanked around by his wife and Natsuki. Though he's always running away from the two women in his life, Natsuki learns that her father is the one who loves her and her mother most. The fact that Shiba-san is able to make Natsuki realize this with a single volume of *Jarinko Chie* makes him a first-class comics therapist.

I hope you'll take this opportunity to read *Jarinko Chie*. Reading it might free you from life's troubles.



© Chikako Mitsuhashi
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This series is featured in Chapter 13:
One Percent Man



Chiisana Koi no Monogatari (41 volumes)

By Chikako Mitsuhashi

Published by Rippu Shobo (currently Gakken)
beginning in 1970

Chiisana Koi no Monogatari (A Little Love Story) is a lyrical story depicting the innocent love between Chichi and Sally. There have been 41 volumes released by Rippu Shobo (currently Gakken) thus far. First serialized in the magazine *Utsukushii Jundai* (Beautiful Teen Years) in 1962, it continues its run as the longest-published series in *Manga Time Family* (Hobunsha). While *Golgo 13* and *Kochira Katsushikaku Kameeri Koenmae Hashutsujo* (This Is Katsushika Ward's Kameari Parkside Police Box) are also enjoying lengthy runs, they still pale in comparison to a manga that has continued for over forty years.

With one new volume released every year in May, bookstores receive lots of calls during this time inquiring about its arrival. A manga beloved by three generations, the people who come looking for it in bookstores range from elderly men to elementary school children. There are also many closeted male fans, like Ikaruga-kun and the middle-aged men who appeared in this chapter, although it might take some courage for them to own up to it.

Why has this manga endured for so long? Since the beginning of its serialization, the climate surrounding manga has changed rapidly. The comic strip, science fiction manga, violent manga, erotic and grotesque manga, nonsensical gag manga and absurdist manga booms all came and went. That *Chii Koi* managed not to get caught up in this current struck a chord with readers across generations. There is a

message that the author has continued to express through this work:

"Even if your wish doesn't come true quite yet, treasure those initial feelings, don't get too comfortable, make sure not to lose that feeling of excitement and keep on chasing it. Cherish the joy of falling in love as you rush headlong into the spring of life."

Incidentally, in this chapter the captain of the cheering squad, Ikaruga-kun, is called "Sekido Aota of Nishi High." This name is taken from the main character of *Hana no Oendan* by Dohkuman. Serialized in *Manga Action* from 1975, the manga, with its rapid-fire gags and Sekido's high jinks, triggered a big boom in readership.

You certainly can't overlook *Chii Koi*'s power to grab hold of the heart of Ikaruga-kun, who outwardly looks even manlier than Sekido. I hope you'll take a cue from Ikaruga-kun by abandoning your biases and expand your boundaries to include all kinds of manga.



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This series is featured in Chapter 14:
Star Traveler



Ginga Tetsudo 999 (18 volumes)

By Leiji Matsumoto

Published by Shonen Gahosha beginning in 1977

The original story of *Ginga Tetsudo 999* (*Galaxy Express 999*), a masterpiece of Japanese anime immortalized from generation to generation, was serialized in *Shonen King* (Shonen Gahosha) in 1977. With the synergy of the *Uchu Senkan Yamato* (*Star Blazers*) boom along with the serialization of *Uchu Kaizoku Captain Harlock* (*Space Pirate Captain Harlock*) and *Queen Emeraldas* around the same time, 999 swept through the '70s, inspiring an animated series, novelizations, music and character merchandising.

In the '90s, 999 was revived due to the passionate pleas of fans, and *Eternal Hen* (*Galaxy Express 999: Eternal*) began serialization in 1996 in *Big Gold* (Shogakukan). The series continues in special issues and on the Internet even now after the magazine went defunct. And with a new animated series recently completed, we may see yet another 999 boom. The entire series is available from *Big Comics Gold* (21 volumes).

The story is about a boy named Tetsuro Hoshino. After his mother is killed by Count Mecha, he journeys by train bound for Andromeda, the end of the line for the Galaxy Express 999, along with a mysterious woman named Maetel. His goal is to obtain a machine body that will make him immortal. The reason I like 999 more than any other Matsumoto work isn't so much because of the plot but because the train is hauled by a rugged steam locomotive of the early Showa period

(primarily the '40s and '50s, when the C62 was in service). I'm also reminded of the night SL (steam locomotive) I used to ride going to my father's family home as a child. The wistful sound of the steam whistle, the flashing red crossing signal, and the view of the moon and stars from the window all evoke a curious sensation of being drawn into a faraway world.

Yukihiro and Tokizane-kun were probably struck with the same feeling riding the train at night. No doubt reading *Ginga Tetsudou 999* was also instrumental in arousing such feelings in the boys who'd never had the experience of riding the night SL.

The copy of Noboru Ohshiro's *Kisha Ryoko* that Okadome found on his satori trip most likely helped the boys appreciate the wondrous feeling of riding the train all the more. Despite being a prewar manga, Ohshiro's work doesn't seem outdated at all. Even though a bullet train can get you from Tokyo to Nagoya in the blink of an eye, I was impressed by how much richer your trip can be riding along slowly and admiring the landscape from the window.

I hope you'll take *Ginga Tetsudo 999* and *Kisha Ryoko* with you and enjoy a trip on a train.

First printing: *IKKI* magazine, February–August issues, 2005

The information in this volume is current up to August 2005. This includes all manga footnotes and all the columns comprising the Kingyo Used Books Notebook.

Thanks to every creator, publisher and property owner of manga titles mentioned in this volume for your understanding and cooperation.

Information provided by Gendai Manga Toshokan/Kirara Bunko.

KINGYO USED BOOKS

Volume 2

VIZ Signature Edition

Story and Art by **SEIMU YOSHIZAKI**

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Original Japanese edition "KINGYOYA KOSHOTEN"

published by SHOGAKUKAN Inc.

Original Japanese cover design by Kei Kasai

Translation: Mini Eda

Touch-up Art & Lettering: Ben Costa

Design: Sean Lee

Editor: Eric Searleman

The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.

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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC

P.O. Box 77010

San Francisco, CA 94107

10987654321

First printing, October 2010



www.viz.com



VIZ SIGNATURE

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Seimu Yoshizaki was born in Kanagawa, Japan. She made her manga debut with *Aka-chan to Tenshi* (Baby and Angel) in 1989. Aside from *Kingyo Used Books*, which is currently being serialized in *IKKI* magazine, she is the creator of many other titles, including *Telekinesis (Yamanote TV Kinema Room)*, *Ugokashiya*, *Kaban Toshokan* and *Deka Girl*.



This book reads from right to left.



Kingyo Used Books 2

In this volume:

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	Reading manga based on famous children's literature provides a window of escape for a bar hostess and a little girl separated from her mother.
	Manga about a working-class neighborhood in Osaka gives Natsuki insight into her parents' love for each other.
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